

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ADP-00 EUR-25 PC-04 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01

PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-15 EB-11 OMB-01 TRSE-00 COME-00

IO-13 NEA-10 NIC-01 RSR-01 /164 W

----- 099874

R 311248Z JUL 73

FM AMEMBASSY KAMPALA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2929

INFO AMCONSUL PERTH

C O N F I D E N T I A L KAMPALA 2444

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: UG US PFOR CPRS

SUBJECT: CONVERSATION WITH ACTING FONMIN ETIANG

REF: (A) KAMPALA 2360; (B) STATE 138493; (C) STATE 149619

1. AT LOCAL HOTEL JULY 30 FON MIN ETIANG INVITED SCHREIBER TO JOIN HIM AND LT. COL. ONDOGA (AMB TO USSR) FOR DRINK. OVER NEXT HOUR MAINLY RENEWED OLD ACQUAINTANCESHIP. ALSO TALKED ABOUT USG-GOR RELATIONS.

2. ETIANG APOLOGIZED FOR NOT BEING ABLE SEE CHARGE KEELEY PRIOR TO HIS DEPARTURE FOR R&R. SAID HE SIMPLY WAS TOO BUSY AT TIME BUT HAD BEEN BRIEFED BY PERMSEC NTIMBA, SEEN OUR NOTE ON PEACE CORPS DETENTION AND HAD REPORT FROM CHARGE MWANGAGUHUNGA IN WASHINGTON. ALTHOUGH HE WAS GENERALLY SHEEPISH OVER WHOLE

INCIDENT, ETIANG DECLARED (IN ALL SERIOUSNESS) THAT HE WAS SURPRISED NOTE STATED THAT GOU DID NOT COME TO US DIRECTLY ABOUT PRES AMIN'S ACTION WHEN IN FACT PRES HIMSELF INFORMED BOB KEELEY THAT HE HAD ORDERED EAST AFRICAN AIRWAYS PLANE WITH AMERICANS ABOARD BACK TO ENTEBBE. FURTHER DISCUSSED CONTENTS OF OUR NOTE AND DEMARCHE (REFTELS A AND B). SCHREIBER
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REITERATED OUR CONTINUED DESIRE FOR GOOD, NORMAL BILATERAL

RELATIONS. ETIANG ECHOED PRES AMIN'S MOST RECENT SENTIMENTS (THAT HE WISHES GOOD RELATIONS WITH ALL COUNTRIES) BUT OFFERED NO PARTICULAR ENCOURAGEMENT. MENTIONED THAT AMB RAMATHAN WOULD BE RETURNING TO WASHINGTON UPON COMPLETION OF HIS HOME LEAVE.

3. RE NATIONALIZATION OF INTERNATIONAL TELEVISION SALES LTD., ETIANG SAID HE HAS WRITTEN TO UN PERMREP ININGIRA AND ADVISED THAT IT WOULD SERVE NO USEFUL PURPOSE FOR MRS. ENGEL TO TRAVEL TO OTTAWA IN HOPES OF SEEING GOU OFFICIALS. SAID THIS IS A UGANDAN PROBLEM WHICH MUST BE RESOLVED IN UGANDA. WHEN IT POINTED OUT TO ETIANG THAT NO PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE IN UGANDA AND ENGEL IS PROHIBITED FROM EVEN COMING HERE, ETIANG SIMPLY REPLIED THAT A "GOOD CHANNEL" HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED VIA OUR EMBASSY THROUGH HIS MINISTRY AND THERE NO REASON IT CANNOT CONTINUE.

4. ON AMIN'S TELEGRAM TO GENERAL DAYAN, ETIANG SAID NO REPLY HAD BEEN RECEIVED YET BUT GOU UNDERSTANDS THAT PRIME MINISTER MEIR IS STUDYING IT. ETIANG SAID HE COULD NOT UNDERSTAND WHY ISRAELIS ARE PRESSING FOR ACTION IN INTERNATIONAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE WHILE IN MIDST OF PURSUING LEGAL REMEDIES IN NEW YORK COURTS. SAID HE CONCLUDES ISRAELIS ARE EMPLOYING HARASSMENT TACTICS.

4. COMMENT: THROUGHOUT CONVERSATION, ETIANG WAS FRIENDLY AND TRIED TO BE CHEERFUL, BUT HE CAME ACROSS AS BEING QUITE TIRED AND LISTLESS, WHICH IS PERHAPS UNDERSTANDABLE GIVEN THE CONSTANT PRESSURES AND FRUSTRATIONS HE IS SUBJECTED TO.

5. SUBJECT TO DEPT CONCURRENCE, SUGGEST PERTH PASS SUBSTANCE OF PARA 3 ABOVE TO HARRY ENGEL.
BURROWS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DETENTION, NATIONALIZATION, DIPLOMATIC NOTES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 31 JUL 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973KAMPAL02444
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS KEELEY
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: KAMPALA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t1973072/aaaaablc.tel
Line Count: 94
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 73 (A) KAMPALA 2360; (B) STATE 13849, 3; (C) STATE 149619
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 01 NOV 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <01-Nov-2001 by cunninfx>; APPROVED <04-Feb-2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CONVERSATION WITH ACTING FONMIN ETIANG
TAGS: PFOR, CPRS, UG, US, IS, PEACE CORPS
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005